Irregularities in Returning the Contribution of Provident Fund by PSUs

13. DR. RANBIR SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many of the Public Sector Undertakings, like Delhi Transport Corporation, have not been depositing the contribution received by them from the employees towards their provident fund as also their share and there have been scandals therein; and

(b) if so, the number of such cases coming to the notice of Government during the last three years and the action taken thereon to safeguard the interests of the employees?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Supply of coal to power sector

14. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand made by power sector for coal during the last three years and actual supplies made during those years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the coal companies are not able to meet the requirement of coal of different power plants;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to fulfil the coal demand of different power projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Details regarding demand as assessed by Central Electricity Authority and actual despatches of coal to power sector during the last three years were as under:

(In million tonnes)
(Data provisional)

Year	Demand	Actual Quantity Supplied
1992-93	150.00	149.53
1993-94	160.00	165.23
1994-95	170.00 (Later enhanced to 177.00 m.t.)	169.12

(All figures include middlings)

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Coal Companies have been in a position to meet the demand of power stations within the overall constraints including availability of wagons and payment against coal supplies during the last 3 years.

(d) High priority is given to despatches of coal for the power sector. Further the situation is reviewed every week by an inter-ministry committee and appropriate action is taken wherever necessary. The alternative of import is now also available.

Proposal to Slash Foodgrain Prices at FPS

15. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to slash foodgrain prices at Fair Price Shops;

(b) if so, whether any decision in this regard has been taken so far;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what would be the selling price of wheat, rice and sugar at shops run under the Public Distribution System; and

(d) whether any time limit has been fixed by which such scheme will be implemented stating the areas where ration shops/shops run under PDS are located?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (d) The Central

Government issues foodgrains in bulk to States/UTs for distribution through the Public Distribution System (PDS) at fixed Central Issue Prices. The foodgrains for Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) areas are issued to States/UTs at Central Issue Prices which are Rs. 50/- per quintal less than Central Issue Prices for normal PDS areas. The State Governments/UT Administrations fix the end retail prices at fair price shops after taking into account transport cost, dealers margins and other levies/taxes. Some State Governments had suggested a further reduction in the Central Issue Prices of foodgrains issued for the RPDS. All such suggestions are examined by the Central Government. No specific time limit has been fixed for the implementation of the suggestions. Levy sugar is old the uniform end retail price of Rs. 9.05 paise per kg. through fair price shops all over the country. Central Government has no proposal to further reduce the end retail price of levy sugar.

खाद्य तेलों के भंडार के वितरण के लिए माध्यम

16. श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय:
श्री दिग्विजय सिंह:
श्री रजनी रंजन साहू:

क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वर्तमान में सरकार के पास पामोलिन आदि जैसे खाद्य तेलों का कितनी मात्रा में भंडार है और प्रतिमाह उपभोक्ताओं को कितनी मात्रा में और किस दर पर और किस-किस माध्यम से खाद्य तेल उपलब्ध कराया जाता है;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने देश में इस समय खाद्य तेलों और आयातित खाद्य तेलों को सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली/उचित दर की दुकानों के माध्यम से उपभोक्ताओं को वितरित करने की कोई योजना तैयार की है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसकी मुख्य विशेषताएं क्या है और इसे कब तक लागू किया जाएगा तथा उपभोक्ताओं को उचित दर की दुकानों से कितनी मात्रा में और किस दर पर खाद्य तेल उपलब्ध कराया जाएगा?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह): (क) से (ग) राज्य व्यापार निगम के पास राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के लिए सप्लाई करने हेतु उपलब्ध आयातित खाद्य तेल के स्टाक की स्थिति इस समय काफी आसान है और आशा है कि राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों की सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के तहत वितरण की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए सारे वर्ष पर्याप्त मात्रा बनाए रखी जाएगी। चालू वर्ष के दौरान राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के लिए केन्द्रीय पूल से आयातित खाद्य तेलों का कुल महीनावार आवंटन इस प्रकार रहा है:—

महीना	मात्रा मी॰ टन में
अप्रैल, 95	3,000
मई, 95	14, 730
जून, 95	13,905
जुलाई, 95	36,657

राज्यों/संघ क्षेत्रों को आयातित खाद्य तेल की आपूर्ति हेतु केन्द्रीय निर्गम मूल्य थोक में 24,000 रु॰ प्रति मी॰ टन तथा 15 कि॰ग्रा॰ के टीनों में 27,000 रु॰ प्रति मी॰ टन है। राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को सलाह दी गई है कि वे तेल के अंतिम खुदरा मूल्य स्वयं नियत करें।

राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के लिए आवंटित आयातित खाद्य तेल देश भर में उपभोक्ताओं को उचित दर की दुकानों तथा सहकारी बिक्री केन्द्रों के जरिए उपलब्ध कराया जा रहा है।

Research Paper on Agricultural Trade Liberalisation by World Bank

17. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied the World Bank's research paper entitled "Agricultural Trade Liberalisation in the Uruguay Round — one step forward and one step back"; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the World Bank's argument that the